Community Readiness: A Self-Assessment Tool

NEED

- Have all other community-based options been explored?

- What unique and necessary characteristics of an assisted living home have been identified for this community?

- What is the demand for assisted living by age, income level, and household type?

- Are there other needed community services that could be combined with an assisted living home?

- What competition exists within the market area? Will this project negatively affect any other program?

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Has the community engaged in any general planning or community development efforts that clearly show that services for Elders and people with disabilities are a priority?

- Does the community understand what assisted living is, and are they demonstrating a commitment to planning and developing it?

- Has the community had an opportunity to formally express their opinions and preferences about the development?

- What agencies have been involved in this effort, and what level of coordination exists?

- Are community leaders committed and ready to take action?

- Does this project have support at the regional level?

SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE

- What long-term care and health services are currently available in the community?

- What other senior services are currently available, and how strong are the organizations that provide them?

COMMUNITY READINESS

- Is there a good site available within the community, and can it be secured?

- Can the current infrastructure (e.g., utilities) support the project?

- Are trained care providers already present within the community? What workforce problems can be anticipated?

- Have development and operational budgets been developed, and do they demonstrate feasibility?

- Has a lead agency been identified, and do they have the necessary expertise and experience to lead the project?